Amendments to the Claims

4/21/08 amendment

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

DO NOT ENTER: /MH/
5/27/08

Listing of Claims

1-20 (cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus, wherein said DNA sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 18 at its 5' end.

22. (Previously presented) A transfected host cell comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus, wherein said DNA sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 18 at its 5' end, which transfected host cell is capable of expressing the encoded PRRS virus.

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23. (canceled)

24. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid in the form of a plasmid, wherein said isolated nucleic acid comprises a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus, wherein said DNA sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 18 at its 5' end.

25. (Previously presented) An isolated infectious RNA molecule encoded by an isolated nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO: 18 at its 5' end, which infectious RNA molecule encodes a PRRS virus.

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26. (Previously presented) A recombinant PRRS virus encoded by an isolated nucleic acid comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus, wherein said DNA sequence comprises SEQ ID No: 18 at its 5' end.

27. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 21, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus.

28. (New) The transfected host cell of claim 22, said host cell being incapable of infection by wild-type PRRS virus.

29. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 24, said isolated nucleic acid being capable of transfection into a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by a wild-type PRRS virus and producing an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus.

30. (New) The isolated infectious RNA molecule of claim 25, said encoded PRRS virus

being expressed in a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus.

31. (New) The recombinant PRRS virus of claim 26, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus.